

REMARKS

The above preliminary amendment is made to remove multiple dependencies from claims 21, to make minor editorial corrections in claims 17, 28 and 29, and to pages 26 and 42, 43 and 44 of the specification.

Applicants respectfully request that the preliminary amendment described herein be entered into the record prior to calculation of the filing fee and prior to examination and consideration of the above-identified application.

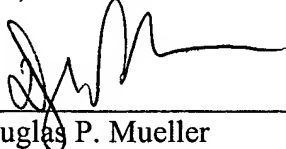
If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Applicants' primary attorney-of record, Douglas P. Mueller (Reg. No. 30,300), at (612) 371.5237.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: July 12, 2004

By



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DPM/jh